(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Based on the recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers (NCF), the Government announced the National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007. An Inter-Ministerial Committee finalized a Plan of Action for operationalisation of the NPF, 2007 and the same was circulated in October, 2008 to all the State Governments particularly with respect to the items falling within the purview of State Governments and the central Ministries/Departments concerned, for necessary action. A regular monitoring mechanism has also been put in place to oversee the progress of implementation of NPF 2007.

Special agriculture zones

3247. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that some State Governments have decided to set up Special Agriculture Zones (SAZs) on the lines of Special Economic Zones;

(b) if so, whether Central Government proposes to encourage the States who have set up such SAZs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Pathetic condition of farmers

3248. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural land available in India is 54 to 57 per cent of total land area while the world average is 10 to 11 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that Indian farmers are in a very pathetic and miserable condition;

(d) if so, the details of farmers who committed suicide during last one year, State-wise;

(e) whether farmers are committing suicide due to very less increase in MSP of agricultural products in comparison to other essential articles; and